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LSU FACULTY SENATE RESOLUTION 15–12

TO OPPOSE HOUSE BILL 707, *THE LOUISIANA MARRIAGE AND CONSCIENCE ACT*

Sponsored by Stephanie Braunstein, LSU Libraries

Whereas Louisiana State University has demonstrated its commitment to diversity in several ways, including the 1999 creation of an Office of Diversity, headed by a Vice Provost of Campus Diversity; *and*

Whereas that Office has, on its official website, a Diversity Statement that includes the following two pertinent paragraphs:

LSU recognizes that achieving national prominence depends on the human spirit, participation, and dedicated work of the entire University community. Flagship: 2020 will be realized by bringing together diverse ideas, perspectives, skills, and talents of the nation's pre-eminent scholars, brightest students, and leading higher education professionals.

Through its Commitment to Community; LSU strives to create an inclusive, respectful, intellectually challenging climate that embraces individual difference in race, ethnicity, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity/expression, age, spirituality, socio-economic status, disability, family status, experiences, opinions, and ideas; *and*

Whereas Louisiana State University's Faculty Senate supports the University's goals of "bringing together diverse ideas, perspectives, skills, and talents of the nation's pre-eminent scholars, brightest students, and leading higher education professionals"; *and*

Whereas Louisiana State University's Faculty Senate also supports the University's goals of "... creat[ing] an inclusive, respectful, intellectually challenging climate that embraces individual difference in race, ethnicity, national origin, gender, **sexual orientation, gender identity/expression**, age, spirituality, socio-economic status, disability, family status, experiences, opinions, and ideas"; *and*

Whereas the recent legislation proposed by Representative Mike Johnson (R-Bossier City), HB 707, is commonly perceived to be legislation that would open the door to discrimination against the LGBT community in Louisiana; *and*

Whereas in order for Louisiana state University to recruit and retain a diverse faculty, the laws of the state must not be seen as discriminatory to any group;

Therefore, be it resolved that the Louisiana State University Faculty Senate opposes House Bill 707 and any other proposed legislation that would negatively impact the goals of building and maintaining a diverse faculty on its campus.